



NEWS RELEASE

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Saugus Man Charged with Punching 71-Year-Old Man

An 18-year-old man was charged today with punching an elderly man who allegedly asked him to stop smoking at a park in Valencia, the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office announced.

Tanner Ian Smith (dob 7/15/97) of Saugus faces one misdemeanor count each of battery on an elder and battery in case 6SC01226.

Smith pleaded not guilty to the charges and is scheduled to return on May 23 in Department 2 of the Los Angeles County Superior Court, Santa Clarita Branch.

The alleged incident occurred on May 2 after the 71-year-old victim asked a group smoking at the park to stop because there were young children around, prosecutors said. The group allegedly laughed and insulted the victim who then took a photo of the activity, prosecutors added.

The complaint charges Smith with punching the victim in the face knocking him to the ground.

Bail was set at \$20,000 and a protective order was issued to keep Smith away from the park and the victim.

If convicted as charged, the defendant faces a possible maximum sentence of one year in county jail and \$1,000 fine.

The case remains under investigation by the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department, Santa Clarita Station.

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[About the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office](#)

Los Angeles County District Attorney Jackie Lacey leads the largest local prosecutorial office in the nation. Her staff of nearly 1,000 attorneys, 300 investigators and 800 support staff members is dedicated to protecting our community through the fair and ethical pursuit of justice and the safeguarding of crime victims' rights.